

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A U-head assembly for rapid and secure attachment to a notched base plate of shoring post apparatus, said assembly comprising:
 - a U-head plate having two inwardly opposing L-shaped extensions that form a channel formed by first and second extensions and received in sliding engagement perpendicular to the shoring post to the base plate of the shoring apparatus,
 - a latch attached to one of said extensions of said U-head plate, said latch having a tongue for engaging the notch in the base plate of the shoring post apparatus upon sliding engagement of the base plate of the shoring apparatus within said channel;
 - and
 - the latch providing for hand releasable attachment and sliding removal perpendicular to the shoring post of the U-head plate from the base plate.
2. (Canceled) The invention in accordance with claim 1 wherein said channel of said U-head is formed by first and second extensions and said latch is attached to one of said extensions.
3. (Currently amended) The invention in accordance with claim 2-1 wherein said extensions are L-shaped and inwardly opposing thereby forming a C-shaped channel for capturing the base plate of the shoring apparatus.
4. (Currently amended) The invention in accordance with claim 2-1 wherein said tongue of said latch engages notch of the base plate of the shoring post apparatus through a hole in one of said extensions.
5. (Currently amended) The invention in accordance with claim 4 wherein said U-head plate further comprises a first wall and a second wall with a base therebetween, and said extensions extend downwardly from said base of said U-head plate opposite the first and second wall.

6. (Currently amended) A U-head assembly for rapid and secure attachment to a notched base plate of shoring post apparatus, said assembly comprising: a U-head plate having two inwardly opposing L-shaped extensions that form a channel received in sliding engagement perpendicular to the shoring post to the base plate of the shoring apparatus, a latch attached to said U-head plate, said latch having a tongue for engaging the notch in the base plate of the shoring post apparatus upon sliding engagement of the base plate of the shoring apparatus within said channel; and the latch providing for hand releasable attachment and sliding removal perpendicular to the shoring post of the U-head plate from the base plate, and ~~The invention in accordance with claim 1~~ wherein said latch further comprises a spring for biasing said tongue toward the notch of the base plate of the shoring apparatus.

7. (Original) The invention in accordance with claim 6 wherein said tongue of said latch is disengaged from the notch of the base plate of the shoring apparatus by compressing said spring.

8. (Previously amended) A U-head assembly for rapid and secure attachment to a notched base plate of shoring post apparatus, said assembly comprising:
a U-head plate having a first wall and a second wall extending generally upward with a base therebetween, and first and second L-shaped inwardly opposing extensions extending downwardly from said base thereby forming a channel adapted for slidably capturing the base plate of the shoring post apparatus in a direction perpendicular to the shoring post;
a latch attached to one of said extensions of said U-head plate, said latch having a tongue for engaging the notch of the base plate through a hole in one of said extensions upon capture of the base plate of the shoring apparatus within said channel,
wherein said latch further comprises a spring biasing said tongue toward the notch of the base plate of the shoring post apparatus and compression of said spring disengages said tongue from the notch of the base plate of the shoring post apparatus; and

the latch providing for hand releasable attachment and sliding removal perpendicular to the shoring post of the U-head plate from the base plate.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in shoring comprising:
a U-head plate;
a support assembly having a notched base plate;
the U-head plate having two inwardly opposing L-shaped extension that form a channel formed by first and second extensions and received in sliding engagement perpendicular to the support assembly to the base plate of the support assembly;
a latch attached to one of said extensions of said U-head plate, said latch having a tongue for engaging the notch in the base plate of the support assembly upon sliding engagement of the base plate of the support assembly within said channel; and
the latch providing for hand releasable attachment and sliding removal perpendicular to the support assembly of the U-head plate from the base plate.

10. (Canceled) The invention in accordance with claim 9 wherein said channel of said U-head is formed by first and second extensions and said latch is attached to one of said extensions.

11. (Currently amended) The invention in accordance with claim ~~10~~9 wherein said extensions are L-shaped and inwardly opposing thereby forming a C-shaped channel for capturing the base plate of the support assembly.

12. (Currently amended) The invention in accordance with claim ~~10~~9 wherein said tongue of said latch engages notch of the base plate of the support assembly through a hole in one of said extensions.

13. (Previously added) The invention in accordance with claim 12 wherein said U-head plate further comprises a first wall and a second wall with a base therebetween, and said extensions extend downwardly from said base of said U-head plate opposite the first and second wall.

14. (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in shoring comprising:
a U-head plate;
a support assembly having a notched base plate;
the U-head plate having two inwardly opposing L-shaped extension that form a channel
received in sliding engagement perpendicular to the support assembly to the base plate of
the support assembly;
a latch attached to said U-head plate, said latch having a tongue for engaging the notch in
the base plate of the support assembly upon sliding engagement of the base plate of the
support assembly within said channel; and
the latch providing for hand releasable attachment and sliding removal perpendicular to the
support assembly of the U-head plate from the base plate and ~~The invention in accordance~~
~~with claim 9~~ wherein said latch further comprises a spring for biasing said tongue toward
the notch of the base plate of the support assembly.

15. (Previously added) The invention in accordance with claim 14 wherein said tongue
of said latch is disengaged from the notch of the base plate of the support assembly by
compressing said spring.

16. (Previously added) A shoring assembly with a U-head assembly for rapid and
secure attachment to a notched plate of a shoring post, said shoring assembly comprising:
a U-head plate having a first wall and a second wall extending generally upward
with a base therebetween;
a support assembly with a notched plate;
said U-head plate having first and second L-shaped inwardly opposing extensions
extending downwardly from said base thereby forming a channel adapted for
slidably capturing the notched plate of the support assembly in a direction
perpendicular to the support assembly;
a latch attached to one of said extensions of said U-head plate, said latch having a
tongue for engaging the notch of the support assembly plate through a hole in one

of said extensions upon capture of the notched plate of the support assembly within said channel,

wherein said latch further comprises a spring biasing said tongue toward the notch of the base plate of the support assembly and compression of said spring disengages said tongue from the notch of the base plate of the support assembly; and

the latch providing for hand releasable attachment and sliding removal perpendicular to the support assembly of the U-head plate from the notched plate of the support assembly.